Assistance given to Cubans

540. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some voluntary aid for Cubans has been made by the so called National Committee for Solidarity with Cuba;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have permitted such aid by the said Committee;

(d) if so, what are details thereof with relevant provisions in this regard; and

(e) if not, what action is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Government of India have seen newspaper reports to the effect that an organisation called National Committee for Solidarity with Cuba is collecting food and relief material to be sent to Cuba as humanitarian assistance.

(c) and (d) Collection of such material by any organisation does not require permission of the Government.

(e) The action to be taken by Government of India can only be determined if and when Government of India is formally approached for permission to export the collected material.

Repatriation of Indians from Singapore

541. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government was drawn to the news item published in the daily Hindu, dated 6th April, 1992 about the arrest of Indians in Singapore for the offence of begging;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the arrested Indians were produced at a press conference organised by the Government of Singapore and their group photos were published in papers;

(c) what steps are taken to repatriate such people who were visiting on socia visit passes; and

(d) whether such people may be asked to deposit the amount for return trave when no objection certificate was issued by the immigration department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Repatriation of these Indian nationals has been carried out.

(d) These persons were in possession of return tickets.

Indian Assistance to Slovak Republic

542. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is willing to help in the economic reconstruction of the Slovak Republic of Czechoslovakia; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and

(b) India's cooperation with the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic encompasses cooperation with the Slovak Republic. Government have not received any specific proposal to assist in the economic reconstruction of the latter.

543. [*Transferred to the 7th May*, 1992.]

भारतीय मिशनों का पुनर्गठन

544. श्री रणजीत सिंह :

सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :

क्या विदेश मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 23 मार्च, 1992 के "दि स्टेट्समैन" में "इण्डियन मिशन्स टू बी रिवेम्पड" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि विदेशों में स्थित भारतीय मिशनों के कार्य का आकलन उनके राजनैतिक कार्यों के साथ-साथ उनके वित्तीय और व्यापार सम्बन्धी कार्य निष्पादन के आधार पर किया जाएगा ;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने विदेशों में स्थित मिशनों को इस सम्बन्ध में अनुदेश जारी कर दिए हैं, और यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) क्या कर्मचारियों को आर्थिक और व्यापारिक गतिविधियों का प्रशिक्षण देने के लिये कोई व्यवस्था की गई है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एडुआर्डो फेलेरियो) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) और (ग) सभी मिशनों और केन्द्रों को इस आशय के अनुदेश दिए गए हैं कि हमारे आर्थिक और वाणिज्यिक हितों के संवर्धन को प्राथमिकता दी जाए । लक्षित देशों में भारतीय मिशनों और केन्द्रों की कार्य-कुशलता के मूल्यांकन निवेश बढ़ाने, प्रौद्योगिकी के हस्तान्तरण और निर्यात संवर्धन के लिये किए गए उनके कार्यों के आधार पर किया जाएगा जो उनके राजनैतिक कार्यों के अतिरिक्त होगा ।

(घ) विदेश सेवा प्रशिक्षण संस्थान विदेश स्थित भारतीय मिशनों और केन्द्रों में हमारे वाणिज्यिक प्रतिनिधियों के लिये नियमित प्रशिक्षण पाठ्यक्रम चलाता है । हाल ही में 30 मार्च से 10 अप्रैल, 1992 तक नई आर्थिक और वाणिज्यिक नीतियों पर हमारे मिशन और केन्द्र प्रमुखों में से 24 प्रमुखों के लिए विदेश सेवा प्रशिक्षण संस्थान ने एक अभिविन्यास पाठ्यक्रम चलाया था । व्यवहार्य सीमा तक हमारे वाणिज्यिक प्रतिनिधि भी विदेश स्थित अपने केन्द्रों पर जाने से पहले आर्थिक और वाणिज्यिक कार्य पर गहन संक्षिप्त जानकारी लेते हैं

Appointment of Ambassadors to Israel and South Africa

545. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Ambassadors to Israel and South Africa have been appointed;

(b) if so, the names thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) The appointment of an Ambassador to Israel is under examination. No action has been initiated so far to appoint an Ambassador to South Africa because diplomatic relations have not yet been established between South Africa and India.

Representation from All India Passport Employees Association

546. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from All India Passport Employees Association ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) The All India Possport Employees Association is not a body recognised by Government of India. As such, officially it is difficult to take cognizance of such representations. However, the Ministery has been sympathetic towards grievances of all employees and have been taking steps to address the same keeping in view administrative and financial constraints and the overall public interest.